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LETTER DATED 16 JULY 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that at 2000 hours on 6 July 1996 a Kuwaiti patrol boat intercepted the Iraqi fishing boat Al-Sadiq while it was fishing in our territorial waters at coordinates 6697. On board the Kuwaiti boat were three men armed with GC rifles and carrying wireless equipment. They took the fishing boat and its crew of 12 to the Kuwaiti side where, in the vicinity of Faylakah Island, the fishermen were tortured and suffered grievous bodily harm from the severe beating they received. After they were questioned, they and the boat were released at 1000 hours on 7 July.

I request your intervention with Kuwait with a view to bringing a halt to the provocative and unwarranted acts that are being committed inside Iraqi territorial waters in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and international law and that are creating a climate of tension in the area. I also affirm the right of the Republic of Iraq to seek compensation for the damage that has been done to its citizens and their property by this act of aggression.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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